

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A network address translation system for isolating internal IP traffic from external IP traffic in the Inter-Working Function of a Global System for Mobile Communications network, comprising:

network means for interconnecting an Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine and an Inter-Working Function Management System, located in said Inter-Working Function, and a network server for processing external IP traffic with an external data communication network;

internal IP address means for assigning each port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine with a private IP address for use exclusively on said network means;

external IP address means for additionally assigning ~~selected ones of~~ said ports of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine with a public IP address for access from a source located external to said Inter-Working Function; and

routing means for routing data transmissions received at said network means and associated with a port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine to a destination identified by said data transmissions comprising:

address means for appending said assigned public IP address to said data transmission as a source address when said port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine is a source of said data transmissions for transmission to said network server, and for appending said assigned private IP address to said data transmission as a source address when said port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine is a source of said data transmissions for transmission to said Inter-Working Function Management System.

2. (Previously presented) The network address translation system of claim 1 wherein said network server means comprises:

L2TP network server connected to said network means for interconnecting said network means with the Internet.

Claims 3 and 4 (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) A method using network address translation for isolating internal IP traffic from external IP traffic in the Inter-Working Function of a Global System for Mobile Communications network, comprising:

interconnecting via a network an Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine and an Inter-Working Function Management System, located in said Inter-Working Function, and a network server for processing external IP traffic with an external data communication network;

assigning each port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine with a private IP address for use exclusively on said network;

additionally assigning ~~selected ones of~~ said ports of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine with a public IP address for access from a source located external to said Inter-Working Function; and

routing data transmissions received at said network and associated with a port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine to a destination identified by said data transmissions comprising:

appending said assigned public IP address to said data transmission as a source address when said port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine is a source of said data transmissions for transmission to said network server, and for appending said assigned private IP address to said data transmission as a source address when said port of said Inter-Working Function Protocol Engine is a source of said data transmissions for transmission to said Inter-Working Function Management System.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein said step of routing comprises: interconnecting said network with the Internet via a L2TP network server connected to said network.

Claims 7 and 8 (Canceled)